

**Mono Basin RPAC
Regional Planning Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 6:30 pm, Lee Vining Community Center

Members present: Lisa Cutting, Zane Davis, Tim Hansen, Chris Lizza, Mark Logan, Ilene Mandelbaum, Paul McFarland, Bartshe Miller, and Margy Verba. **Absent:** Duncan King.

Public Attendees and Presenters: Tim Alpers, Scott Burns, Jim Leddy, and Dave Marquart.

1. **Call to order:** 6:34 pm. The group observed a moment of silence in honor of Don Banta.
2. **Public comment:** Dave Marquart: Expressed concerns related to fire danger in Mono City and SCE power lines in light of the Swall fire. Mono City residents would like for a SCE representative to attend a future RPAC meeting to hear the community's concerns.
3. **Review Minutes:** October 8, 2014: Correction to 6a. add "including Mono City residents getting stuck in traffic lines and not being able to get to Mono City to be able to evacuate" to the first sentence. Correction to 6i. not a firebreak but "the trails to access the fire area that Friends of the Inyo worked on". Motion by Hansen; second by McFarland; abstaining: Cutting, Logan, Miller, and Verba. Passes unanimously. November 12, 2014: Correction to 5b. change "anniversary" to "birthday of mother". Motion by Mandelbaum; second by Logan; abstaining: Cutting, Davis, Lizza, McFarland, and Verba. Passes unanimously.
4. **Supervisor's report:** Tim Alpers: Introduced new District 5 supervisor Stacy Corless. Jim Leddy: The Board adopted rules and procedures to operate within and a new legislative platform. Swall Fire update: 39 homes were lost and 4 fire fighters sustained injuries. No pets were lost. 500 fire fighters responded to the blaze. Now the County is working with State agencies to reestablish life for the victims. This involves toxic waste clean-up and other debris removal. The Bridgeport fire happened on the same day but no homes were lost. Kudos to all County staff in dealing with both incidents both in the moment and afterwards especially Dale Schmidt, Robin Roberts, Ingrid Braun, and Mike Moriarty. Verizon and SCE have been busy replacing 55 lost power poles.
5. **Chairman's report:** Bartshe Miller: Expressed concern over the wind event and resulting fires. Since 2003 Bartshe has documented 7 incidents near or adjacent to Mono City and Lundy Canyon. Alerted everyone that after serving for 4 years tonight is his last meeting as Chair of the RPAC.
6. **Member's reports:**
 - a. Lisa Cutting: Attended the Conway Ranch Workshop that the Board recently had.
 - b. Zane Davis: Also concerned with wind and power lines in Mono City. Conveyed Mono City resident's concern with speed limit in Mono City. Jeff Walters is looking into the issue.
 - c. Tim Hansen: Thanks to Bartshe for serving as Chair for four years. Mono City Fire Road is a good accomplishment but Mono City needs a generator to be able to keep the water running in the event of an emergency. Given the status of Katie Bellomo not being confirmed for another term, Tim resigned stating that he cannot continue with the RPAC like nothing has happened.
 - d. Duncan King: Absent.
 - e. Chris Lizza: Mono County did an outstanding job with both fires – thank you. No Planning Commission meetings for January or February. Don Banta's death is a big loss for the community of Lee Vining.
 - f. Mark Logan: Don Banta was an amazing individual. The situation regarding Katie Bellomo is hard to take. Her not being reappointed is wrong and disturbing. What is the purpose of the RPAC? Scott Burns' response: The RPAC is advisory to the Board of Supervisors on planning issues and development review. Gives recommendations on County Plans, General Plans, Mono Basin Area Plan and review and comment on other agency plans. Mark responded that in response to what happened to Katie Bellomo he is resigning from the RPAC.
 - g. Ilene Mandelbaum: Very distressed about the situation regarding Katie Bellomo and wants to know what the correct process for reappointment is for members. Is it appropriate to discuss this during open session in a Supervisor's meeting? Jim Leddy response: Appointments must be done in open session. "Safe harbor" protects people making comments that help inform the process. Ilene requests a future agenda item to explain exactly the process for appointment and

